United Nations A/55/414

General Assembly

Distr.: General
25 September 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 60 (b)
United Nations reform: measures and proposals: The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations

Letter dated 22 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration", and to convey to you hereunder the reservations of my country's delegation concerning some of the items the Declaration contains.

I. Section II, the fourth subparagraph of paragraph 9, calling upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

My country's delegation deems it essential for further measures to be taken to reinforce the international arrangements for the punishment of perpetrators of the most grievous crimes against international peace and security. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was elaborated for the prosecution of the weak alone. It must thus be amended to ensure the prosecution of all perpetrators of acts of aggression. As long as there is no agreement among the States Members of the United Nations on the definition of certain basic concepts contained in the Statute of the International Criminal Court, such as the crime of aggression, my country can under no circumstances sign or ratify the Statute.

II. Section II, the fifth subparagraph of paragraph 9, on taking concerted action against international terrorism

My country is of the view that international efforts to eliminate terrorism will be to no avail as long as terrorism is not defined internationally, fairly, democratically and scientifically by the States Members of the United Nations in such a way as to differentiate between it and the legitimate rights of peoples to freedom and self-determination. It is neither rational nor acceptable that some

00-65819 (E) 260900 270900

should classify the struggle of peoples for freedom and the ending of foreign occupation as terrorism while ignoring genuine terrorism as exemplified by the imposition of iniquitous sanctions, occupation and invasion, military bases, the deployment of naval fleets, the exclusive possession of weapons of mass destruction and the threat and use of force.

III. Section II, the eleventh subparagraph of paragraph 9, calling on all States to consider acceding to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

My country's delegation is of the view that this Convention, in addition to its not having been negotiated in the framework of the United Nations, does not take account of the legitimate defence and security interests of some Member States in that it addresses only simple and limited weapons. As one of the peoples of the third world that would have the capacity to defend their boundaries and the interior of their territories against powerful possessors of sophisticated aircraft and in-flight refuelling aircraft only by deploying this weapon, we are of the view that humanity's concern should focus on the destruction of nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles and chemical and biological weapons and not on mines, which are the simplest of all types of weapons.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 60 (b).

(*Signed*) Abuzed Omar **Dorda**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative